

# SERMON NOTES

Joy for the Journey: A Shared Joy!  
Philippians 2:12-30

As a child, one of the principles we learn is to share. We must share our toys, and even our candy. In the Christian life, we must learn to share our joy. One way we can share our joy is by the example we provide to others. Paul called the Philippians “beloved.” In essence he was saying, “You are especially loved by God, but also by me!” The Philippians were encouraged in their joy because of the examples that had been set before them. You encourage others in their joy when you live as an example of the Christ life.

**Key thought:** You encourage others in their joy when you live as an example of the Christ life.

**An example of the Christ life demonstrates...**

## CONTINUAL SPIRITUAL PROGRESS (VS. 12-13)

### My responsibility

“Work out” – a believer must finish, carry to conclusion, apply to its fullest consequences what has already been given by Christ.

“Work out” – *katergazesthai* – sense of working out something until it is brought to completion.  
Present tense – meaning continuous action.

Two phrases modify the command: “presence/absence” and “fear & trembling”

“Therefore, let us fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it.” *Hebrews 4:1* (NASB95)

### My confidence – God is at work

The Philippians are not left to themselves to achieve such high spiritual goals.

“For God is at *work* in you both to will and to *do* of his good pleasure.” The word Paul uses for *work* and *do* is the same, the verb *energein*. There are two significant things about it; it is always used of the *action of God*, and it is always used of *effective action*. God’s action cannot be frustrated, nor can it remain half-finished; it must be fully effective.

## CONVINCING WITNESS (VS. 14-18)

### “Shining lights producing mutual joy”

- The right attitude (v. 14)
- The right character (v. 15)
- The right convictions (v. 16)

## COMPELLING EXAMPLES (VS. 19-30)

- Who encourages you to be bold in your faith? Paul (vs. 17-18)
- Who encourages you to be a servant? Timothy (vs. 19-24)
- Who encourages you to be sacrificial? Epaphroditus (vs. 25-30)